

## CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2  
SECTION: 10.3  
TITLE: INTRAOCULAR LENS IMPLANTATION

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AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.270a) and 17.272 (a)(42)(i)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(d)(3)(vii)

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### I. EFFECTIVE DATE

- A. June 1, 1977
- B. March 1, 1984, for specular microscopy, interferometry, and keratometry tests.

### II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

66825 and 66982-66986

### III. DESCRIPTION

A lens implant (intraocular lens (IOL)) is a man-made tiny, clear plastic lens which is placed inside the eye at the time a cataract is removed. It replaces the natural lens and remains permanently within the eye. Prior to the procedure, appropriate intraocular lens power for the eye is determined. To do this, the length of the eye is measured using a painless ultrasound technique. The measurement of the refracting power of the cornea is determined with a keratometer. In phacoemulsification or extracapsular cataract surgery, a protective clear capsule is retained in the eye.

### IV. POLICY

- A. Intraocular lens implantation, along with cataract extraction, is covered.
- B. Specular microscopy, keratometry and interferometry tests are covered when done prior to cataract surgery alone or cataract surgery with an IOL implant.
- C. Eyeglasses required in combination with intraocular lens implantation to restore vision may be considered for cost sharing (see [Chapter 2, Section 10.4, Lenses \(Intraocular or Contact\) and Eye Glasses](#)).

**\*END OF POLICY\***